

REMARKS

This AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 is filed in reply to the outstanding Final Rejection of December 2, 2003, and is believed to prima facie place this case in condition for allowance for reasons set forth below in greater detail.

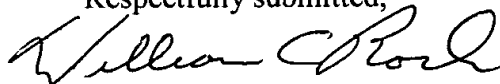
The present Amendment cancels all rejected claims, leaving only allowed claims 31, 34/31, 35-41, 42/31, 42/36-40, 45/31, 45/36-40, 48 and 49.

Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 is respectfully requested as a matter of right.

A set of corrected formal drawings in a Transmittal of Formal Drawings will be filed in due course herein.

This application is now believed to be prima facie in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite prosecution of this case, it is respectfully requested that he call applicant's attorney at (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,



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